

# Repairing Worn Jacket Sleeves

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Hubby's favourite winter jacket was showing serious wear on the sleeves, just above the knit cuffs. The jacket was otherwise in good shape, and the cuffs themselves were intact, so I knew the jacket was a candidate for a repair.

Fortunately, the original sleeve length was a bit too long for him, so I was able to trim off the worn bits and re-sew the cuffs in place. I found that 1.5" was about the length I needed to cut off in order to clear the worn areas.

I used a seam gauge to measure up from the cuff about 1.5" on both the inside and the outside of the sleeves. Then I used chalk to draw lines around each sleeve on both outside and inside.

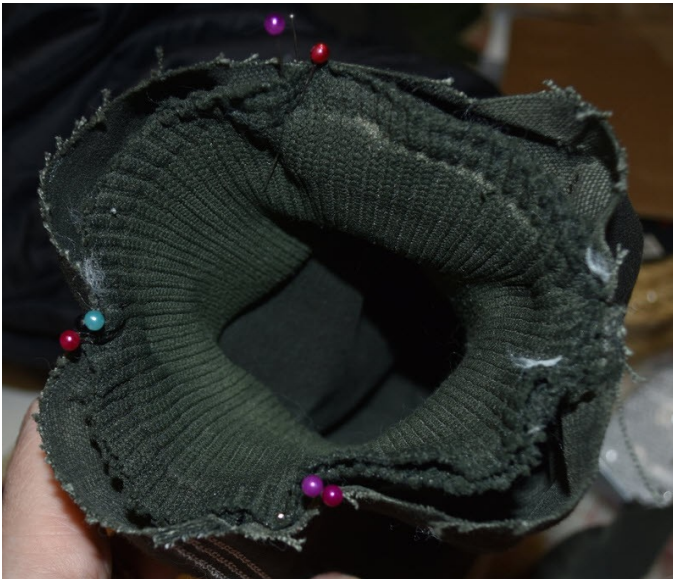
Once the lines were drawn, I used my scissors to cut around the outer sleeves and then the linings, snipping right on the lines and trimming away the worn parts.



The next step was to carefully remove the cuff from the cut-away bits of the sleeves. I used my seam ripper to do this, picking the stitches carefully to avoid damaging the cuffs.



The cuffs were in good shape, so I didn't have to replace them, but if they had been damaged as well, I would have made new cuffs from a suitable piece of rib knit.



Next I quartered the cuff and the outer jacket sleeve and marked the points with pins. Then I inserted the cuff into the inside-out sleeve, matching the pin position. I stretched the cuff slightly to make it fit as I stitched it in place.



I am stitching the cuff to the outer sleeve, with the cuff side up. Managing the bulkiness of the jacket makes this task somewhat challenging, but with a bit of patience – and a good machine – it can be done.

I'll hand-sew the sleeve lining in place once the cuff is machine-sewn to the outer sleeve.

Next, I sewed a straight line about 1/2" from the edge of the sleeve lining, to serve as a guide when I fold the edge under for hand-sewing. While I was at it, I also finished the edge of the sleeve lining using a zigzag stitch.



With the entire jacket sleeve pulled inside out, I made sure the seam allowance of the cuff was folded toward the sleeve.

Then I tucked under the edge of the lining and hand-stitched it in place using a ladder stitch.



All stitched up and ready to be turned right side out. It took only a few minutes to stitch the lining in place by hand, and the finish is clean and neat.

The finished sleeve, as good as new. All the worn bits have been trimmed away, and the sleeves are a better length now, so it's a win-win.



I did it all with some help from Scampers, who inserted himself between me and the sewing machine while I was working . . . the better to see what I'm doing, I guess. Good thing he's so cute.